



Dahl Memorial Clinic
Municipality of Skagway

January 25, 2017

Representative Sam Kito
State Capitol Room 404
Juneau AK 99801

Dear Representative Kito,

I am writing to ask for your support ensuring Alaskans continue to have access to affordable broadband telehealth services in rural and Bush communities. The Rural Health Care Universal Service Support budget has remained static for 20 years and must be increased. The current \$400 million budget remains at the initial level set in 1997, despite inflation, advances in technology and increased demand for services. The FCC expects that demand may exceed the cap for the first time in funding year 2016. An equivalent budget today, adjusted for inflation, would be about \$600 million.

Rural Health Care Universal Service Support is essential to enable providers to deliver affordable broadband telehealth services in Alaska's rural and Bush communities. Alaska received more than \$82 million in rural health care support for 2015, a substantial increase from 2014.

If rural Alaskans are to continue to receive the affordable broadband telehealth services they need, the FCC must increase the rural health care budget and index it for inflation, as it recently did with E-rate. The FCC has updated the E-rate budget from \$2.25 billion in 1997 to \$3.94 billion for 2016, and indexed it for inflation, reflecting increases in demand.

Rural health care support enables telehealth services to be provided that dramatically improve access to care, accelerate diagnosis and treatment, avoid unnecessary medivacs, and expand local treatment options.

Dahl Memorial Clinic has utilized broadband telehealth services for several years to send x-ray and ultrasound imaging to radiologists in Juneau for reading and interpretation. It is a vital part of the medical services we provide to our small community and the thousands of seasonal visitors who come to our town each year.

We ask that you urge the FCC to increase the rural health care universal service support budget, index it for inflation, and provide for any unused funds to be carried forward to future funding years. This will ensure Alaska's rural and Bush communities continue to have access to affordable broadband telehealth services, critical for improving access to care.

Thank you for your support.

Shelly O'Boyle
Clinic Executive Director
(907) 983-2255
s.oboyle@skagway.org

CC: FCC Secretary and staff



Dahl Memorial Clinic
Municipality of Skagway

January 25, 2017

Senator Dennis Egan
State Capitol Room 417
Juneau AK 99801

Dear Senator Egan,

I am writing to ask for your support ensuring Alaskans continue to have access to affordable broadband telehealth services in rural and Bush communities. The Rural Health Care Universal Service Support budget has remained static for 20 years and must be increased. The current \$400 million budget remains at the initial level set in 1997, despite inflation, advances in technology and increased demand for services. The FCC expects that demand may exceed the cap for the first time in funding year 2016. An equivalent budget today, adjusted for inflation, would be about \$600 million.

Rural Health Care Universal Service Support is essential to enable providers to deliver affordable broadband telehealth services in Alaska's rural and Bush communities. Alaska received more than \$82 million in rural health care support for 2015, a substantial increase from 2014.

If rural Alaskans are to continue to receive the affordable broadband telehealth services they need, the FCC must increase the rural health care budget and index it for inflation, as it recently did with E-rate. The FCC has updated the E-rate budget from \$2.25 billion in 1997 to \$3.94 billion for 2016, and indexed it for inflation, reflecting increases in demand.

Rural health care support enables telehealth services to be provided that dramatically improve access to care, accelerate diagnosis and treatment, avoid unnecessary medivacs, and expand local treatment options.

Dahl Memorial Clinic has utilized broadband telehealth services for several years to send x-ray and ultrasound imaging to radiologists in Juneau for reading and interpretation. It is a vital part of the medical services we provide to our small community and the thousands of seasonal visitors who come to our town each year.

We ask that you urge the FCC to increase the rural health care universal service support budget, index it for inflation, and provide for any unused funds to be carried forward to future funding years. This will ensure Alaska's rural and Bush communities continue to have access to affordable broadband telehealth services, critical for improving access to care.

Thank you for your support.

Shelly O'Boyle
Clinic Executive Director
(907) 983-2255
s.oboyle@skagway.org

CC: FCC Secretary and staff



Dahl Memorial Clinic
Municipality of Skagway

January 25, 2017

The Honorable Congressman Young
2314 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Young,

I am writing to ask for your support ensuring Alaskans continue to have access to affordable broadband telehealth services in rural and Bush communities. The Rural Health Care Universal Service Support budget has remained static for 20 years and must be increased. The current \$400 million budget remains at the initial level set in 1997, despite inflation, advances in technology and increased demand for services. The FCC expects that demand may exceed the cap for the first time in funding year 2016. An equivalent budget today, adjusted for inflation, would be about \$600 million.

Rural Health Care Universal Service Support is essential to enable providers to deliver affordable broadband telehealth services in Alaska's rural and Bush communities. Alaska received more than \$82 million in rural health care support for 2015, a substantial increase from 2014.

If rural Alaskans are to continue to receive the affordable broadband telehealth services they need, the FCC must increase the rural health care budget and index it for inflation, as it recently did with E-rate. The FCC has updated the E-rate budget from \$2.25 billion in 1997 to \$3.94 billion for 2016, and indexed it for inflation, reflecting increases in demand.

Rural health care support enables telehealth services to be provided that dramatically improve access to care, accelerate diagnosis and treatment, avoid unnecessary medivacs, and expand local treatment options.

Dahl Memorial Clinic has utilized broadband telehealth services for several years to send x-ray and ultrasound imaging to radiologists in Juneau for reading and interpretation. It is a vital part of the medical services we provide to our small community and the thousands of seasonal visitors who come to our town each year.

We ask that you urge the FCC to increase the rural health care universal service support budget, index it for inflation, and provide for any unused funds to be carried forward to future funding years. This will ensure Alaska's rural and Bush communities continue to have access to affordable broadband telehealth services, critical for improving access to care.

Thank you for your support.

Shelly O'Boyle
Clinic Executive Director
(907) 983-2255
s.oboyle@skagway.org

CC: FCC Secretary and staff



Dahl Memorial Clinic
Municipality of Skagway

January 25, 2017

The Honorable Senator Sullivan
702 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Sullivan,

I am writing to ask for your support ensuring Alaskans continue to have access to affordable broadband telehealth services in rural and Bush communities. The Rural Health Care Universal Service Support budget has remained static for 20 years and must be increased. The current \$400 million budget remains at the initial level set in 1997, despite inflation, advances in technology and increased demand for services. The FCC expects that demand may exceed the cap for the first time in funding year 2016. An equivalent budget today, adjusted for inflation, would be about \$600 million.

Rural Health Care Universal Service Support is essential to enable providers to deliver affordable broadband telehealth services in Alaska's rural and Bush communities. Alaska received more than \$82 million in rural health care support for 2015, a substantial increase from 2014.

If rural Alaskans are to continue to receive the affordable broadband telehealth services they need, the FCC must increase the rural health care budget and index it for inflation, as it recently did with E-rate. The FCC has updated the E-rate budget from \$2.25 billion in 1997 to \$3.94 billion for 2016, and indexed it for inflation, reflecting increases in demand.

Rural health care support enables telehealth services to be provided that dramatically improve access to care, accelerate diagnosis and treatment, avoid unnecessary medivacs, and expand local treatment options.

Dahl Memorial Clinic has utilized broadband telehealth services for several years to send x-ray and ultrasound imaging to radiologists in Juneau for reading and interpretation. It is a vital part of the medical services we provide to our small community and the thousands of seasonal visitors who come to our town each year.

We ask that you urge the FCC to increase the rural health care universal service support budget, index it for inflation, and provide for any unused funds to be carried forward to future funding years. This will ensure Alaska's rural and Bush communities continue to have access to affordable broadband telehealth services, critical for improving access to care.

Thank you for your support.

Shelly O'Boyle
Clinic Executive Director
(907) 983-2255
s.oboyle@skagway.org

CC: FCC Secretary and staff



Dahl Memorial Clinic
Municipality of Skagway

January 25, 2017

The Honorable Senator Murkowski
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski,

I am writing to ask for your support ensuring Alaskans continue to have access to affordable broadband telehealth services in rural and Bush communities. The Rural Health Care Universal Service Support budget has remained static for 20 years and must be increased. The current \$400 million budget remains at the initial level set in 1997, despite inflation, advances in technology and increased demand for services. The FCC expects that demand may exceed the cap for the first time in funding year 2016. An equivalent budget today, adjusted for inflation, would be about \$600 million.

Rural Health Care Universal Service Support is essential to enable providers to deliver affordable broadband telehealth services in Alaska's rural and Bush communities. Alaska received more than \$82 million in rural health care support for 2015, a substantial increase from 2014.

If rural Alaskans are to continue to receive the affordable broadband telehealth services they need, the FCC must increase the rural health care budget and index it for inflation, as it recently did with E-rate. The FCC has updated the E-rate budget from \$2.25 billion in 1997 to \$3.94 billion for 2016, and indexed it for inflation, reflecting increases in demand.

Rural health care support enables telehealth services to be provided that dramatically improve access to care, accelerate diagnosis and treatment, avoid unnecessary medivacs, and expand local treatment options.

Dahl Memorial Clinic has utilized broadband telehealth services for several years to send x-ray and ultrasound imaging to radiologists in Juneau for reading and interpretation. It is a vital part of the medical services we provide to our small community and the thousands of seasonal visitors who come to our town each year.

We ask that you urge the FCC to increase the rural health care universal service support budget, index it for inflation, and provide for any unused funds to be carried forward to future funding years. This will ensure Alaska's rural and Bush communities continue to have access to affordable broadband telehealth services, critical for improving access to care.

Thank you for your support.

Shelly O'Boyle
Clinic Executive Director
(907) 983-2255
s.oboyle@skagway.org

CC: FCC Secretary and staff